

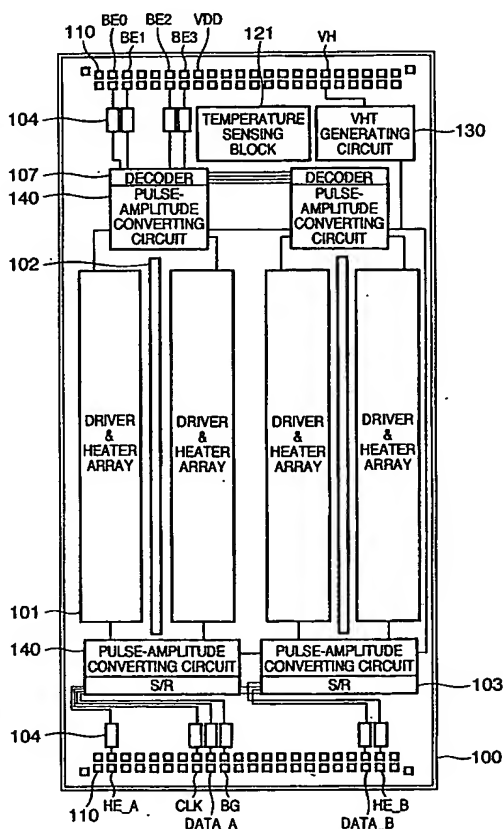


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(57) Abstract: A heater/driver array that includes heaters for generating thermal energy utilized to discharge ink and driver circuits for driving these is mounted on a substrate. The heaters are formed into a plurality of groups and are driven by block drive on a per-group basis. A block selection signal of driving-signal voltage level (VHT) and a heater driving signal corresponding to a selected block are generated based upon a print data signal, which has been input at a logic-signal voltage level (VDD), in any of an input circuit, shift register circuit and decoder circuit. The heater/driver array drives the heaters in accordance with the block selection signal and heater driving signal of the driving-signal voltage level.

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SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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